Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine Site Screen Report

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits and pits. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites lands not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands but that are or may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, to record all immediate site information associated with the mine site and to document the recommendation and/or decision on what additional steps, if any, are needed at the site.

Section 34 AUM Site

Navajo AUM Eastern Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

12767.063.496.1111

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Part I **Site Identification, Location and Status** Site Names and ID numbers as applicable Mine ID: 337 Map ID: E66 **CERCLIS:** NNN 000 908 749 NAMLRP: NOT ASSIGNED New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division ID: NM0152 New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources: NMMK0249 Local name / Aliases: N/A Chapter and local area: Baca/Haystack Chapter **Lat/Long:** 35.4023547273 N / -107.982981977 W Nearby road and highway: Route 19, Red Cliffs Road Local Post Office: Prewitt, NM Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below **Tribal Trust Land Tribal Fee Land Allotment** Fee land **Public lands Private Bureau of Land Mgmt** State

Ownership and contact information:

Approximately 75% of the mine site property is on Indian Allotment land and 25% on private land owned by Lynn "Buddy" Elkins. No residences were found within 0.25 miles of the site

Part II Site Observations

Observed Structures: list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:

0 to 200 feet: None **200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None

Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:

0 to 200 feet: None 200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

None

Observed water sources: list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:

0 to 0.25 miles: None 0.25 miles to 4 miles: None

Sensitive environments: note and describe all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation.

None observed

Known Site History: include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents.

Lynn "Buddy" Elkins provided access to the mine site. He was unaware of any minning operations conducted at the site.

Note information on mine ownership, period of operation, and type of mining operation.

The Section 34 mine consists of an area of 37,232.35 square meters. Any historical information pertaining to mining operations and historical ownership of the mine site appeared to be unclear.

Part III Type, number and reclamation status of mine features

Provide description and reclamation status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all reclamation caps.

Reclamation status of the mine sites are currently unknown. No visible signs of reclamation were observed. No visible signs of mining operations were observed at the site. A washed-out access road ran through the mine. No waste piles, adits, or other mine features were observed during the site visit.

Part IV Summary of radiological readings

Background Locations

#1 11,369 cpm #2 12,603 cpm #3 10,058 cpm

Mine site: Section 34

- See Figures 1 and 2

Nearby Structure Perimeter – None

Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 2,677 gamma radiation measurements were collected from mine sites, ranging from 6,544 cpm to 75,736 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Part V Site sketch of all mine features and readings, including locations of all structures, sources of drinking water and any other important features and radiological readings.

Presented in Figures 1 and 2

Part VI Response Action Summary

Site Name(s): Section 34

Chapter: Baca/Haystack

Decision Criteria

Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site? No

At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located? N/A

At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources? N/A

Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site? No

Is the cap/seal functionally intact? N/A

Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases? N/A

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located? N/A

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source? N/A

Summary of emergency response factors

None

Summary hazard ranking system factors

None

Summary of reclamation factors

No known reclamation

Part VII Photos



Photo 1. Section 34 Mine site along hillside, towards the northwest



Photo 2. Section 34 Mine site, towards the south. Washed out access road.

Part VIII Contacts Reports and Information

Name_Stanley Edison
Title or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program
Address PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Information provided <u>General Background and Contact/Access Information</u>
Name Ms George Padilla
Title or official role (if any) Regional Environmental Scientist, BIA, Navajo Nation
Telephone number(505) 863-8434
Address PO Box 1060, Gallup, NM 87305
Name
Title or official role (if any)
Telephone number
Information provided
Name
Title or official role (if any)
Telephone number
Information provided



